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THE TABLET.——No. CXVII.

"Laughing is a proof, neither of wiſdom or folly."

THE editor, deſirous to pay attention to the efforts of his young correſpondents, does not ſcruple to publiſh the following eſſay, which was ſent him by ARISTIDES. Some alterations in the ſtile might have been made, which, in the opinion of the editor, would have added to the elegance of it. But as every author chuſes to write in his own way, we communicate the ſentiments of ARISTIDES juſt as he expreſſed them.

FOR THE TABLET.

NUMEROUS paſſions have reſidence in the human breaſt, and happy for mankind it would be if ſome of the more violent could be reſtrained from ſo often breaking looſe.—A very conſiderable variety however is manifeſt in their operations upon individuals.——Whether this ariſes from a different method of education—ſome peculiarity of ſtructure in the internal and more delicate organs of our frame—or whether the cauſe of this difference is to be ſought for in the mental faculties, are queſtions I ſhall not pretend to determine. Poſſibly it might be found that under an accurate inveſtigation this ſeemingly great diverſity would vaniſh, or at any rate be conſiderably diminiſhed—and ſomething ſimilar to what we find in regard to colours take place; in which the proper mixture of a few original ones, that almoſt boundleſs variety is produced.

I ſhall not attempt to trace the different paſſions to their ſource, and endeavor to diſcover thoſe few original ones which may exiſt according to this laſt hypotheſis—but for the preſent ſhall confine myſelf to a few obſervations upon the riſible faculty or paſſion for laughter.—In this there is ſomething peculiarly extraordinary and to me unaccountable—becauſe it is excited by cauſes directly contrary to each other, viz. actions or tranſactions which are modeſtly decent, and thoſe which are really contemptible and exceedingly abſurd—which perhaps would juſtify an aſſertion that it is not always indicative of pleaſing ſenſations—yet in chuſing a partner for the nuptial bands, or thoſe of friendſhip, a cheerful is preferred to a gloomy countenance—the reaſon for which is obvious, they are generally ſuppoſed to communicate ſomewhat of the ſame caſt to our minds. It is true the oppoſite paſſion partakes alſo in ſome meaſure of this ſeemingly two fold nature, there being tears of joy as well as of ſorrow—ſtill there appears to me a manifeſt contraſt—as joyous tears are not only leſs common but alſo of very ſhort continuance—laſting only while the tenderneſs of heart is overcome by an unexpected effuſion of ſatisfaction, which is entirely evaporated when the mind is a little compoſed, and recollection returns.—In the other caſe peals of laughter are repeatedly excited and continued, not only by witty ſayings but actions very contemptible—How often do we ſee this paſſion raiſed by little calamitous incidents, ſuch as a fall into a mud puddle, a fright or the like?—Is not the invention put to its utmoſt ſtretch in ſchools to deviſe tricks which when they ſucceed raiſe the loudeſt roars? But what ſeems ſtrange we cannot perceive the leaſt difference in the feelings when the laugh is excited, whether it be by wit or witticiſms, drollery or nonſenſe.

To admit this might not be reliſhed by thoſe who poſſeſs this ſo much celebrated and frequently deſired faculty—if the effects are the ſame, which muſt be the caſe, allowing the communicated ſatisfaction to be equal, it is reducing the two characters of wit and drollery pretty nearly to the ſame level, though they are generally eſtimated differently.—We find moſt people pleaſed with a joke, and you may diſcover many anxiouſly treaſuring up every little incident which they imagine will excite merriment in the circle of their aſſociates—It is ſurely commendable to paſs at leaſt part of our hours of recreation in innocent mirth, and to take ſome pains to entertain the company with humorous anecdotes and ſallies of wit, whether of our own invention or acquired from reading or experience. This is mentioned as one of the circumſtances which tended to endear the company and enhance the converſation of our late illuſtrious and much eſteemed *Franklin*.

According to the foregoing remarks he is the moſt deſirable companion who has the beſt knack of raiſing a laugh—for I do not conceive that the deſign of the moſt facetious extends beyond the accompliſhment of this, nor do all the repoſitories of wit obtain more, if it be conceded that every laugh produces a ſimilarity of feeling—and this may be boldly aſſerted according to one of the rules of philoſophiſing ſo fully eſtabliſhed, by which we are taught to expect ſimilar effects from ſimilar cauſes, and undoubtedly we may with ſtill more confidence look for it from the ſame cauſe; yet however deſirous perſons may be to excite, ſtill immoderate laughter gives a character for levity—and the word ridiculous is applied to expreſs the idea of the conduct of thoſe whoſe actions are far from being unexceptionable.—When it is conſidered how frequently we are compelled contrary to our inclination or rather intention to laugh we cannot help wondering how we ſhould be pleaſed with abſurdity and nonſenſe; it muſt be ſome peculiar oddity which conferring a momentary pleaſure is not able to encounter a ſerious retroſpection.

ARISTIDES.

On the GOVERNMENT *of our* PASSIONS.

I.

SAY, Love, for what good end deſign'd
Wert thou to mortals given?
Was it to fix on earth the mind?
Or raiſe the heart to Heav'n?

II.

Deluded oft we ſtill purſue
The fleeting bliſs we ſought,
As children chaſe the bird in view,
That's never to be caught.

III.

O! who ſhall teach me to ſuſtain
A more than manly part,
To go thro' life, nor ſuffer pain
Nor joy to touch my heart?

IV.

Thou, bleſt indifference, be my guide,
I court thy gentle reign;
When Paſſion turns my ſteps aſide,
Still call me back again.

V.

Teach me to ſee, thro' Beauty's art,
How oft its trappings hide
A baſe, a lewd, a treacherous heart,
With thouſand ills beſide.

VI.

Nor let my gen'rous ſoul give way,
Too much to ſerve my friends;
Let reaſon ſtill control their ſway,
And ſhew were duty ends.

VII.

If to my lot a wife ſhould fall,
May Friendſhip be our love;
The paſſion that is tranſport all
Does ſeldom laſting prove:

VIII.

If laſting, 'tis too great for peace,
The pleaſure's ſo profuſe;
The heart can never be at eaſe
Which has too much to loſe.

IX.

Calm let me eſtimate this life,
Which I muſt leave behind,
Nor let fond paſſions raiſe a ſtrife,
To diſcompoſe my mind.

X.

When Nature calls, may I ſteal by,
As riſing from a feaſt;
I've had my fill of life, and why
Should I diſturb the reſt?

DISCOURSES ON DAVILA.

No. VII.

The Senate's thanks, the Gazette's pompous tale,
With force reſiſtleſs, o'er the brave prevail.
This power has praiſe, that Virtue ſcarce can warm
Till fame ſupplies the univerſal charm.

THE reſult of the preceeding diſcourſes is, that avarice and ambition, vanity and pride, jealouſy and envy, hatred and revenge, as well as the love of knowledge and deſire of fame are very often nothing more than various modifications of that deſire of the attention, conſideration and congratulations of our fellow men, which is the great ſpring of ſocial activity. That all men compare themſelves with others; eſpecially thoſe with whom they moſt frequently converſe; thoſe, who, by their employments or amuſements, profeſſions or offices, preſent themſelves moſt frequently, at the ſame time to the view and thoughts of that public, little or great, to which every man is known. That emulations and rivalries naturally, and neceſſarily are excited by ſuch compariſons; that the moſt heroic actions in war, the ſublimeſt virtues in peace, and the moſt uſeful induſtry in agriculture, arts, manufactures and commerce, proceed from ſuch emulations, on the one hand, and jealouſies, envy, enmity, hatred, revenge, quarrels, factions, ſeditions and wars, on the other. The final cauſe of this conſtitution of things is eaſy to diſcover. Nature has ordained it, as a conſtant incentive to activity and induſtry, that, to acquire the attention and complacency, the approbation and admiration of their fellows, men might be urged to conſtant exertions of beneficence. By this deſtination of their natures, men of all ſorts, even thoſe who have the leaſt of reaſon, virtue or benevolence, are chained down to an inceſſant ſervitude to their fellow-creatures, labouring without intermiſſion to produce ſomething which ſhall contribute to the comfort, convenience, pleaſure, profit or utility of ſome or other of the ſpecies, they are really thus conſtituted by their own vanity, ſlaves to mankind. Slaves, I ſay again: for what a folly is it? On a ſelfiſh ſyſtem, what are the thoughts, paſſions and ſentiments of mankind to us? What is fame? A fancied life, in others breath. What is it to us, what ſhall be ſaid of us, after we are dead? Or in Aſia, Africa, or Europe, while we live? There is no greater poſſible or imaginable deluſion: yet the impulſe is irreſiſtable. The language of nature to man in his conſtitution is this, "I have given you reaſon, conſcience, and benevolence: and thereby made you accountable for your actions, and capable of virtue in which you will find your higheſt felicity. But I have not confided wholly in your laudable improvement of theſe divine gifts. To them I have ſuperadded a paſſion in your boſoms, for the notice and regard of your fellow mortals, which if you perverſely violate your duty and wholly neglect the part aſſigned you, in the ſyſtem of the world and the ſociety of mankind ſhall torture you, from the cradle to the grave."

(To be continued.)

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, MAY 10.

On the propoſition to increaſe the duty of Tonnage, on foreign bottoms.

MR. SMITH, [S. C.] moved to ſtrike out the firſt clauſe of the report, which propoſed to raiſe the tonnage on foreign built veſſels to a dollar per ton, and gave ſeveral reaſons in ſupport of the motion. The meaſure he conſidered impolitic becauſe it was injurious to the primary intereſts of the United States, its agriculture, and unequal in its operation; becauſe it would be ſeverely felt by ſome ſtates, while it would be advantageous to others; it ought to be viewed either as a matter of revenue or as a bounty; if the former, it ſhould be collected with an impartial hand from each ſtate according to its juſt proportion; if the latter, it ſhould be paid out of the Treaſury, and not raiſed on particular ſtates. South-Carolina would pay 30,000 dollars, while Maſſachuſetts paid only 8000, and Georgia would pay 14,000 when New-Hampſhire paid only 1200. This was requiring the ſouthern ſtates to make too great a ſacrifice, and was impoſing enormous burthens on them for the excluſive benefit of the eaſtern ſtates; it was taxing South-Carolina and Georgia to give bounties to Maſſachuſetts and New-Hampſhire. Maſſachuſtets having ſhipping of her own would export her commodities at the rate of ſix cents per ton, while the ſouthern ſtates whoſe produce was of a bulky nature muſt pay 100 cents: In addition to this advantage, Maſſachuſetts would receive the ſame freight for her ſhipping as would be paid to foreigners, and as this encreaſed tonnage would immediately encreaſe the freight, Maſſachuſetts would receive for her ſhipping a higher freight than ſhe does now; ſhe would therefore derive numerous advantages from the propoſition, while ſome other ſtates would be exceedingly injured by it. South-Carolina he ſaid, was obliged to employ foreign ſhipping to carry off full one half of her crop; this encreaſed tonnage would either make her pay an encreaſed freight, or would diminiſh the quantity of foreign ſhipping on which ſhe depended; in the one caſe it would operate as a tax on exports, which was againſt the conſtitution; in the other it would check the exportation of its produce, and thereby materially affect the agriculture of the country which was its principal reſource. He was aware he ſhould be told that this was the way to encreaſe the American ſhipping and to reſcue the exporting ſtates from their dependance on foreigners. Such an event was not likely to take place without a convulſion; commerce was not eaſily forced from a channel in which it had long run; in the attempt thoſe ſtates muſt ſuffer and they were not at preſent in a condition to bear it: Embarraſſed with their debts, public and private, from which nothing could extricate them but a facility of exporting their productions, they were not in a humour to make experiments; this was one of a dangerous nature;

it was encountering an immediate and certain evil for a remote and uncertain benefit; The navigating ſtates had already obtained from Congreſs conſiderable favors more than either the manufacturing or the agricultural ſtates had received; their veſſels paid only 6 cents while foreigners paid 50; even when ſold to foreigners they paid only 30 cents; they had a monopoly of the coaſting trade and the Eaſt India trade, and goods imported in American bottoms were entitled to a diſcount of 10 per cent on the duties. They had by nature every advantage in ſhip building; they could build for nearly one half the ſum it would coſt in Europe, they had all the materials for building and equipping at hand, and yet they were not ſatisfied but were preſſing for further benefits; at leaſt they ſhould wait to learn the effect of the laws paſſed laſt ſeſſion on this ſubject; there were no documents to ſhew whether thoſe laws had increaſed the American ſhipping or to what amount, they had not been in operation above nine months, and it was an extraordinary proceeding to double the foreign tonnage without any other ground than a petition from ſome merchants in Portſmouth. If after the inquiry ſhould be made, it ſhould appear that notwithſtanding every thing which Congreſs had done for ſecuring to the United States the carrying trade, our own ſhipping had not increaſed in the proportion expected, it might reaſonably be inferred that other circumſtances than thoſe to which it was attributed, occaſioned ſuch ill ſucceſs, and that increaſing the foreign tonnage would not remedy the evil; if on the other hand it ſhould be aſcertained that the meaſures of laſt ſeſſion had produced the deſired effect, then any further reſtrictions on foreign ſhipping would be unneceſſary. Whatever was the reſult, it would operate againſt the propoſed increaſe.

If the fact however really was as the petition ſtated, that no advantages had accrued to their ſhipping from the meaſures of the laſt ſeſſion, he was impreſſed with a ſtrong conviction that their ſhipping labored under diſabilities not within the power of Congreſs to remove. It was not improbable that our merchants in general, either had not ſufficient capital to engage ſeriouſly in the carrying trade, or were not diſpoſed to encounter the hazard of that ſpecies of commerce. A merchant at Boſton who ſhould propoſe to be concerned in the carrying trade between Charleſton and Amſterdam, muſt have capitals and connections at both thoſe places: His property being thus divided, would be expoſed to greater riſques than if it were all at Boſton under his immediate controul: at leaſt he would feel more ſatisfaction in this caſe, and any trifling loſs might induce him to relinquiſh ſuch extenſive concerns, and to contract his capital to a ſmaller ſphere: This might be one reaſon why our citizens were cautious of embarking in the carrying trade; another might be aſſigned; ſome of the exporting ſtates were accuſtomed to particular commercial habits adapted to their local circumſtances and their immediate convenience; they were ſupplied at proper ſeaſons with ſuch commodities as were ſuited to their wants, and the nation which ſupplied them, not only allowed us an extenſive credit, but received our produce in exchange; the veſſels which brought the neceſſary ſupplies, were ready to take away our productions, and the merchant who ſold the former would naturally employ his own veſſels to export the latter. The only mode of ſupplanting theſe foreign merchants is to imitate their conduct; without it, ſaid Mr. Smith it is in vain to load their ſhipping with enormous duties; ſuch a ſtep will only diſtreſs us and depreciate our produce, without ſecuring the carrying trade to the Eaſtern ſtates. The true policy of the United States was to encourage its agriculture and facilitate the exportation of its products—this meaſure would have a different tendency. Union at home and peace with all the world ſhould be our motto, becauſe they would enſure proſperity to this country; but the propoſition if carried into operation, would occaſion diſunion at home, and might induce a retaliation by foreign powers, and involve us in hoſtilities. The ſtates which would ſuffer by this reſtriction on foreign ſhipping, of which they ſtood ſo much in need, would conſider it as unjuſt and calculated to promote the intereſts of other ſtates at their expence: In this point of view, he diſapproved highly of the meaſure, for it did not hold out to the different ſtates that equal protection to which by the conſtitution they were entitled. At any rate the propoſed increaſe was premature and they had not ſufficient information to warrant ſo very enormous an addition to the foreign tonnage.

Mr. SHERMAN obſerved that the reſolutions had in view two objects; one to encourage the carrying trade, the other to encourage ſhip building. To give due encouragement to the American carrying trade, he thought it would be expedient to lay the ſame impoſitions on foreigners coming into the ports of the United States, as were laid on citizens of the United States going into foreign ports. Encouraging the carrying trade, in his opinion, would operate as an encouragement to ſhip building, becauſe owning American built ſhips ſhould be an object to foreigners who traded with the United States, ſince thereby they would make a conſiderable ſaving in the tonnage; the reſolutions propoſing to add no additional tonnage on American built ſhips, tho' owned by foreigners.—He thought that tonnage would not operate ſo unequally as the gentleman from South-Carolina had imagined. Should its operation be unfavorable to any particular State for the preſent, yet the general benefit of it would ſoon pervade the whole, and like water would find its own level.

Mr. Goodhue made ſome remarks on the importance of the carrying trade, and ſaid that the decline of that buſineſs was owing to the reſtrictions impoſed by foreigners on the ſhipping of the United States. In his opinion, therefore, it was neceſſary to meet them in this reſpect upon an equal footing, and place the ſhipping of the United States in the ſame ſituation as theirs. Beyond this he did not wiſh to go. Conſidering the ability of our country to build ſhips, he thought that branch of buſineſs ought to be encouraged, as it was a point that in a very eſſential manner, concerned our neareſt intereſts.

Mr. Williamſon ſaid, the queſtion was of importance. He did not think it proper that one part of the community ſhould be burthened for the benefit of the other. Suppoſe a particular State ſhould pay 8 or 10,000 dollars a year extraordinary for the public good, it would moſt certainly be proper to adopt ſome method of refunding the ſum paid over and above its proportion, and then the burthen would be equalized. With reſpect to the policy of encouraging American veſſels he viewed the matter in a different light from what the gentleman from Carolina did. When he mentioned the encouragement of American ſhipping, he confeſſed his ideas did not extend to a navy. He thought that period ſtill very remote when we ſhould be able to contend with the European powers on the watery element. He hoped, he ſaid, Americans would never ſo far loſe ſight of their own intereſt as to burthen themſelves with the expence of a navy; conſidering our ſituation, rather let us endeavour to make the moſt of the produce of our country. The farmer who earns his bread by the ſweat of his brow, if his induſtry procures him more than he wants for his own ſupport, he ought to have markets to go to, and every poſſible opportunity thrown in his way of making the moſt of his property. By permitting foreigners to carry our produce for us in order to pay for the fine goods they furniſh us, we have to raiſe more from the ſoil by one third than if we carried it ourſelves. The exports from ſome ſtates conſiſt of bulky articles; and the tranſportation of lumber to the Weſt-Indies in foreign bottoms conſumes 50 per cent. of the cargo. It is uſual for a man to fill a veſſel with lumber, and then give one half for the carrying of the other: ſo that one half of the property goes out of the country never to return. In particular, too, with regard to tobacco: The value of a hogſhead was about 25 dollars, the freight to Europe 8 dollars, ſo that the freight was very near 33⅓ per cent.

He mentioned theſe particulars, he ſaid, to ſhew the diſadvantage of ſuffering foreigners to be the carriers of our produce. Mr. Williamſon then read a ſtatement of the annual exports of North-Carolina, and the ſhipping employed in carrying off the ſame. When it was conſidered what a prodigious proportion of our produce went irrecoverably into the hands of foreigners by their being our carriers, it was highly neceſſary to take ſome meaſures to counteract ſuch abuſe. And he hoped the citizens of the United States would one day or other be the ſole carriers of their own produce. For it was to the carrying trade that nations owed their wealth and conſequence, and experience had ſhewn that he that carried the produce finally became the owner of it. The gentleman from South-Carolina (Mr. Smith) had ſaid, that the operation of the preſent tonnage act had either tended to encreaſe the ſhipping, or it had not—if it had increaſed it, then enough was done; if it had not, then the failure was owing to ſome other cauſe, and the raiſing of the tonnage would not effect the deſired purpoſe.—To this he begged leave to reply, that the tonnage might be compared to a great weight; it was either moved or not, if it was moved and not lifted, then there was only more ſtrength wanted; if it was not moved, then it became neceſſary to have recourſe to the mechanical powers of pullies, levers, &c.

Mr. SMITH then obſerved, that if gentlemen went upon the principle of increaſing the tonnage after they had ſet it in motion, that they might perhaps go to the length of 2 or 3 dollars. The gentleman had compared it to a weight, when we had got the lever under it, all we had to do was to lift. But it appeared to him that we had no lever under the weight, and that we are ſtriving to raiſe it without one, and may continue ſtriving till we break our backs. If a perſon ſhould take a doſe of medicine, he aſked whether it would not be proper to wait till he ſaw whether it operated or not, before he ſhould take another? The fact was Congreſs had not time to ſee the operation of their meaſures: But a few months had elapſed ſince the tonnage act had begun to be in force. The propoſed reſolutions put him in mind of a ſick man, who was informed by his phyſician that if he could take half a pint of medicine every day for ſix months, that it would reſtore him his health. The man then reaſoned thus: Half a pint a day of this potion will make me well in ſix months; but a pint per day for three months is equal to half a pint for ſix months—Ergo, a pint a day for three months will cure me!

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, MAY 24, 1790.

THE bill for the relief of Thomas Jenkins, and Co. and the bill for eſtabliſhing the Judicial Courts of the United States in the State of North Carolina, were read a third time, and paſſed the Houſe.

The amendments propoſed by the Senate to the reſolutions reſpecting the arrears of pay due to officers and ſoldiers of the Virginia and North-Carolina lines of the late army, were taken into conſideration.

Mr. Lawrance informed the houſe that the ſpeculations in this buſineſs had not originated in New-York—that he had been informed the whole amount, purchaſed by perſons here, is about 2600 dollars—that the ſpeculations in Virginia and North-Carolina, had taken place previous to the appropriation, and to a much greater amount.—He mentioned theſe facts, he ſaid, to do away the aſperſions, which in the courſe of diſcuſſing this buſineſs, had been thrown out againſt this city. He was of opinion, that it would be beſt to diſagree to the amendments, and let the reſolution lie for further conſideration.

Mr. Williamſon ſaid he hoped the houſe would agree to the amendments, as in caſe of non-concurrence the reſolutions would be loſt—and he was firmly perſuaded that it is neceſſary that ſome thing ſhould be done.

Mr. Bloodworth made ſome obſervations in reply to Mr. Lawrance.

Mr. Ames obſerved, that as there appears to be a contradiction in reſpect to facts, and as the reſolution had been oppoſed on certain principles, which had not been controverted, he wiſhed the amendments ſhould lie for the preſent, and made a motion accordingly.

Mr. Vining oppoſed the motion.

Mr. Sedgwick ſupported it.

The vote being taken the motion was loſt.—The amendments were then agreed to.

In Committee of the whole on the funding bill.

9th Section under conſideration.

This appropriates ſo much of the revenue from Impoſt and Tonnage, as may be neceſſary to pay the intereſt on the domeſtic debt of the United States, agreeable to the principles of the bill.

Mr. Gerry obſerved, that the proviſion for the non-ſubſcribers, by the bill, does not include intereſt, as in the caſe of ſubſcribers. He moved an amendment to make ſuch proviſion. He obſerved that this clauſe as it now ſtands, conveys the idea of compulſion, to a much greater degree, than without it—whereas the only difference which has been contemplated is, a priority in payments.

It was obſerved by ſome gentlemen, that the bill did virtually make this proviſion.

The motion being put, was negatived.

Mr. Boudinot then moved that the clauſe ſhould be made definite, by expreſſing the word "principal," agreeable to the ſenſe of the committee as now declared.

Mr. Sherman moved an amendment to this amendment, to provide for iſſuing a Certificate for intereſt, to the end of the year 1791, to non ſubſcribers. Theſe motions, after a ſhort diſcuſſion, were withdrawn.

Mr. Heiſter moved an amendment reſpecting the non-ſubſcribing creditors, by which they ſhould receive their intereſt "*from* and" during the year 1791. This was objected to as eſtabliſhing a permanent fund for paying the intereſt to non-ſubſcribers, at 6 pr cent. which is giving them advantages over the ſubſcribers—whereas it is not contemplated by the bill to fund the demands of the non ſubſcribers—they are to be provided for by annual grants.——Some debate enſued on this motion. The queſtion being put was negatived.

Section 12, reſpects the appointment of commiſſioners in the ſeveral States.

Mr. Steele moved that the ſection ſhould be amended, by adding the words—to reſide at —— This motion was loſt.

Mr. Williamſon moved, that the clauſe which empowers the Secretary of the Treaſury to appoint the requiſite number of Clerks to each Commiſſioner ſhould be ſtruck out.——This was carried in the affirmative.

The committee went through the bill, as far as the 12th ſection, and made ſeveral ſmall amendments. At the end of the twelfth ſection,

Mr. Gerry ſaid, he roſe to make a motion, which was to inſert a clauſe for the *aſſumption of the State debts*. Sir, (ſaid he) when this queſtion was before under conſideration, a gentleman from Virginia urged a variety of arguments againſt it, but as he did not come forward with his arguments till near the time of adjournment, there was no opportunity of replying to them. Sir, his arguments appeared to a number of gentlemen to be unfounded, and to require not only inveſtigation but contradiction. Since that time the houſe have called for documents from the Secretary of the Treaſury, from the Secretary at War, and the Commiſſioners for ſettling the public accounts. It is reaſonable to ſuppoſe that the arguments for aſſumption would derive new force from theſe papers, if any additional force was wanting. As far as concerns myſelf, however, I wiſh not to enter into a diſcuſſion of the individual exertions of the States, if it can poſſibly be avoided. In my view, every ſtate has obtained an ample ſhare of honor, in the public cauſe, with which they ought to be ſatisfied—nor is it my wiſh to reflect more honor on one State than another. This, however he thought might probably be the effect of an inveſtigation of the papers, although he hoped the neceſſity of ſuch an inveſtigation would be prevented by an acquieſcence of the committee in a motion which he would make, and which was founded upon principles of conciliation. Should it be attended with ſuch conſequences as theſe, it would indeed be a happy circumſtance—and in that expectation he begged leave to ſubmit it to the conſideration of the committee.

It is not at all my wiſh, however, (continued Mr. Gerry) that the committee ſhould decide haſtily on my propoſition—it ſhall be moved, and then lay on the table to afford gentlemen an opportunity of examining it, and making up their minds thereupon.

Mr. Gerry then read the following as his motion:

AND WHEREAS a proviſion for the debts of the reſpective ſtates, by the United States would be greatly conducive to an orderly, economical and efficient arrangement of the public finances; would tend to an equal diſtribution of burthens among the citizens of the ſeveral ſtates; would promote more general juſtice to the different claſſes of public creditors; and would ſerve to give additional ſtability to public credit: And whereas the ſaid debts having been eſſentially contracted in the proſecution of the late war, it is juſt that ſuch proviſion ſhould be made.

Be it therefore further enacted, That a loan be alſo propoſed to the amount of the ſaid debts, and that ſubſcriptions to the ſaid loan be received at the ſame time and places, by the ſame perſons, upon the ſame terms, and with the ſame options to the ſubſcribers, as in reſpect to the loan above propoſed, concerning the domeſtic debt of the United States, ſubject to the exceptions and qualifications hereafter declared.

And be it further enacted, That the ſums which ſhall be ſubſcribed to the ſaid loan, ſhall be payable in the principal and intereſt of the certificates, which, prior to the day of laſt, were iſſued by the reſpective ſtates, as acknowledgments or evidences of debt by them reſpectively owing; and which ſhall appear by oath, or in regard to a known Quaker, by affirmation, to have been the property of an individual, or individuals, or body politic, other than a ſtate, on the ſaid day of laſt. *Provided*, That no greater ſum ſhall be received, in the certificates of any ſtate, than as follows, that is to ſay,

In thoſe of New-Hampſhire,
In thoſe of Maſſachuſetts,
In thoſe of Connecticut,
In thoſe of New-York,
In thoſe of New-Jerſey,
In thoſe of Pennſylvania,
In thoſe of Delaware,
In thoſe of Maryland,
In thoſe of Virginia,
In thoſe of North-Carolina,
In thoſe of South-Carolina,
In thoſe of Georgia,

And provided, That no ſuch certificate ſhall be received, which from the tenor thereof or from any public record, act or document, ſhall appear, or can be aſcertained to have been iſſued for any purpoſe other than compenſations and expenditures for ſervices or ſupplies towards the proſecution of the late war, and the defence of the United States, or of ſome part thereof during the ſame.

And be it further enacted, That the intereſt upon the certificates which ſhall be received in payment of the ſums ſubſcribed towards the ſaid loan, ſhall be computed to the laſt day of the year 1791, incluſively, and that the intereſt upon the ſtock which ſhall be created by virtue of the ſaid loan, ſhall commence or begin to accrue upon the firſt day of the year 1792, and ſhall be payable quarter yearly at the ſame times, and in like manner as the intereſt on the ſtock to be created by virtue of the ſaid loan in the domeſtic debt of the United States. *Provided, always*, that the intereſt on one third of the reſpective ſums which may be ſubſcribed according to the laſt of the three options or alternatives upon which ſubſcriptions may be made as aforeſaid, ſhall commence or begin to accrue until the firſt day of the year 1799.

And be it further enacted, that if the whole of the ſum allowed to be ſubſcribed in the debt or certificates of any ſtate as aforeſaid, ſhall not be ſubſcribed within the time for that purpoſe limited, ſuch ſtate ſhall be entitled to receive, and ſhall receive from the United States, at the rate of four per centum per annum, upon ſo much of the ſaid ſum, as ſhall not have been ſo ſubſcribed, in truſt for the non ſubſcribing creditors of ſuch ſtate, to be paid in like manner as the intereſt on the ſtock which may be created by virtue of the ſaid loan, and to continue until there ſhall be a ſettlement of accounts between the United States and the individual ſtates, and in caſe a balance ſhall then appear in favor of ſuch ſtate, until proviſion ſhall be made for the ſaid balance,

But as certain ſtates have reſpectively iſſued their own certificates in exchange for thoſe of the United States, whereby it might happen that intereſt might be twice payable on the ſame ſums.

Be it therefore further enacted, That the payment of intereſt, whether to ſtates or to individuals, in reſpect to the debt of any ſtate, by which ſuch exchange ſhall have been made, ſhall be ſuſpended until it ſhall appear to the ſatisfaction of the——that certificates iſſued for that purpoſe, by ſuch ſtate have been re-exchanged or redeemed, or until thoſe which ſhall not have been re-exchanged or redeemed, ſhall be ſurrendered to the United States.

And be it further enacted, That the faith of the United States be, and the ſame is hereby pledged to make proviſion, before the 3d of March, 1791, for payment of intereſt on the amount of the ſtock ariſing from ſubſcriptions to the ſaid loan, upon the like principle with the proviſion herein before expreſſed, touching the loan to be made in the ſaid domeſtic debt of the United States; and alſo for the payment of the ſaid four per centum per annum on ſo much of the ſaid debts of the reſpective ſtates, as ſhall remain unſubſcribed to the ſaid loan.

And be it further enacted, That ſo much of the debt of each ſtate as ſhall be ſubſcribed to the ſaid loan, ſhall be a charge againſt ſuch ſtate in account with the United States.

And be it further enacted, That the commiſſioners to be appointed as aforeſaid, ſhall have the like powers and authorities, and ſhall perform the like ſervices and duties in reſpect to the ſaid laſt mentioned loan, as in reſpect to the one firſt above propoſed, relatively to the ſaid domeſtic d bt of the United States.

Mr. Lee ſaid, he had hoped that the advocates of this meaſure would have ſuffered the committee to have proceeded in the buſineſs before them, without interrupting it by attempting to unite this ſubject with another, which has been repeatedly declared to be different in its conſtruction. He thought it would have an inauſpicious aſpect on the public counſels—would delay, if not entirely defeat, an object of the greateſt importance, and on which the public expectation is exceeding ly engaged—It will revive all thoſe recriminations, and invidious diſtinctions, which have already created ſo many diſagreeable ſenſations.—He hoped the gentlemen would not urge the conjoining a buſineſs which is in its nature ſo diſtinct. He therefore moved that the Committee ſhould riſe, and report the bill. He ſhould not, he ſaid, object to the bringing in a particular bill upon the ſubject: The propoſed amendment is lengthy and complex, ſaid he, it will require a lengthy diſcuſſion, and can with more advantage be attended to, when taken up as a ſeparate object.

Mr. Sherman obſerved, that the deſign of this amendment is to make proviſion for a claſs of citizens equally meritorious with any others in the United States—ſhould the bill paſs without providing for them, ſome of the States will be wholly unable to do it, and others of them cannot without burdening the people with very oppreſſive taxes—it will be leaving the State creditors in a totally deſtitute ſituation. He did not wiſh that the committee ſhould immediately take the propoſition into conſideration—he was in favor of its laying on the table, that the committee might take time to reflect upon it.

Mr. Sedgwick made ſome obſervations ſimilar to thoſe offered by Mr. Sherman.

Mr. Fitzſimons ſaid he was in favor of the Aſſumption, as much as any man whatever—ſtill he thought it beſt to finiſh the bill now before the committee, and make the aſſumption the object of a particular bill by itſelf. He thought this would be a ſaving of time, and that thoſe who advocated the connecting it with the preſent bill, would find that the greateſt difficulties would attend proſecuting it in that connection.

Mr. Ames obſerved, that as many obſervations had been made on the propriety of taking up this ſubject in connection with the preſent bill. He thought it neceſſary that ſome notice ſhould be taken of them.

He obſerved, that the preſent opportunity appeared to be the only one, of taking up this buſineſs—for if the bill now before the committee ſhall be compleated, without including the aſſumption, it will then be objected that the funding ſyſtem is finiſhed; and drawing near the cloſe of the ſeſſion, it is very improbable that any thing will be done.

Adverting to the report of the Secretary, he obſerved, that it is evident the Secretary conſiders the aſſumption as an eſſential part of his plan. For his part he could form no idea of a ſyſtem without it—Gentlemen have been repeatedly called upon to explain their ideas on the ſubject; they have not done it; they have not pointed out the funds they mean to appropriate to their object. They have not told us what part of the funds appropriated by the ſtates they mean to invade. The idea of bringing in a ſeparate bill he conſidered as abſurd. It was forming two funding ſyſtems—making two buſineſſes out of one—and encreaſing the perplexities of each—rendering that complex and intricate, which might be ſimplified and made perfectly eaſy and intelligible.

Mr. Fitzſimons and Mr. Hartley made ſome obſervations in reply to Mr. Ames—and objected to connecting the aſſumption with the preſent bill.

Mr. Parker after obſerving that if the propoſition now offered by Mr. Gerry, is added to the bill he ſhould be for rejecting it altogether—moved that the committee ſhould riſe and report progreſs. This motion being agreed to, the Committee roſe; but before the chairman could make report, Mr. Gale moved in the Houſe that he ſhould report particularly how far the committee had proceeded in the bill—and that the committee ſhould be diſcharged from any further conſideration of the ſame.

Mr. Page ſeconded this motion: He obſerved that the committee had diſcharged their commiſſion, which was to provide for the public debt—the laſt ſection of the bill had no neceſſary connection with the preceding parts. He objected to Mr. Gerry's propoſitions, as informal, as tending to obſtruct the paſſage of the funding bill, &c.

Some diſcuſſion took place reſpecting the propriety of inſtructing the committee in the Houſe, to report differently from the ſenſe of the motion made in committee—which was, that the committee ſhould riſe, report progreſs, and aſk leave to ſet again.

Mr. Boudinot, in particular, enlarged on the impropriety of precluding the advocates of the aſſumption from replying to the obſervations of the gentleman from the ſouthward, who ſpoke the laſt on the ſubject—He ſaid the idea of preventing a free and full diſcuſſion, is not conſiſtent with candor, fair-dealing, and the rules of the Houſe. The debate was continued with ardor on both ſides. In oppoſition to the committee's ſitting again, it was ſaid the aſſumption has been twice rejected—that it has a tendeny to excite heats and animoſities—that it will be protracting the public buſineſs, and in the iſſue, occaſion a loſs of the funding ſyſtem altogether.—In favor of the committee's ſittting again it was ſaid that the obſervations of gentlemen, oppoſed to the Aſſumption, had gone out into the world unanſwered, and unreplied to—that in conſequence of the very extraordinary and unfounded aſſertions made by a gentleman from Virginia, papers had been called for, which contained ſtatements that the advocates for the aſſumption mean to make uſe of: The buſineſs of aſſumption has received a different determination at different times—the friends of the meaſure may bring forward ſuch arguments in its ſupport as may convince a majority of its propriety and expediency.

Mr. Gale having withdrawn his motion—it was determined that the committee have leave to ſet again. Adjourned.

TUESDAY, MAY 25.

In committee of the whole houſe on the funding bill.

Mr. Seney in the chair.

Mr. Gerry's propoſition for the aſſumption of the State debts was read—This propoſition was advocated by Mr. Sherman, Mr. Boudinot and Mr. Ames—who ſeverally entered into a full diſcuſſion of the ſubject of aſſumption, and replied particularly to the obſervations of Mr. Madiſon.

No member riſing immediately after Mr. Ames, and the chairman being about to put the queſtion, Mr. Sedgwick after premiſing a few obſervations reſpecting the probability that ſome other gentlemen would wiſh to expreſs their minds on the ſubject—in order to allow them an opportunity to do it, moved that the committee ſhould riſe. Mr. Gale moved an amendment to this motion, by adding that the chairman ſhould report, "that the committee have gone through the diſcuſſion of the 12 firſt ſections of the bill, and that they be diſcharged from any further conſideration thereof."—This amendment occaſioned conſiderable debate—an appeal was made to the chair whether it was in order; the chairman gave it as his opinion that it was; an appeal from the judgment of the chairman was made to the committee, who confirmed the declaration—32 members riſing in favor of the affirmative; ſome further debate enſued on the idea which had been ſuggeſted of taking up the buſineſs of aſſumption in a ſeparate bill—Mr. Smith (S. C.) moved an amendment to the amendment propoſed by Mr. Gale—which was to ſtrike out what relates to diſcharging the committee—this motion the chairman declared was not in order.—The queſtion being put on Mr Gale's amendment, it was carried in the affirmative.

The committee then roſe, and the chairman reported "that they had gone through the diſcuſſion of the twelve firſt ſections of the bill making proviſion for the public debt of the United States." The queſtion whether the committe ſhould be diſcharged was prevented from being taken, by an adjournment's being called for—Adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

DR. FRANKLIN.

COLUMBIA weep! Thy ſtudious ſage is dead,
Who taught to turn the Thunder from thy head;
The Sage, to whom Heav'n gave the envied lot,
To live belov'd, and ne'er to be forgot;
Tho oft remember'd, ſtill as often bleſt,
For toils endur'd that thou in peace might reſt.

Nor ſhall the philoſophic Sage alone,
Bleſs FRANKLIN's name for light on Science thrown;
The humble houſewife will his mem'ry love,
Who cur'd her chimney by his uſeful Stove:
Not to the ſplendid was his thoughts confin'd;
All arts are great that beneſit mankind.
His wide, his deep reſearches, lift the ſoul,
And teach weak man all nature to controul:
Nor leſs his Maxims form for lowly life,
The thrifty huſband, and the frugal wife.
Earth, Fire, Water, Air, confeſs'd his power—
Nor could TIME ſteal from FRANKLIN one half hour;
But forc'd by INDUSTRY, his tribute brought,
And ſtill each moment for his honor wrought;
Crown'd him at laſt with never-fading fame,
Then, forc'd by Fate—remov'd him whence he came. D.

STOCKBRIDGE, May 17, 1790.

THAT Liberty is eſſential to happineſs, that without it, LIFE LOSES ITS RELISH, AND BECOMES INSIPID, the wiſdom of the wiſe muſt impel them to acknowledge. So miſtaken however have been the true principles of this moſt ineſtimable bleſſing, that in aiming to obtain it, many have plunged into a worſe ſtate of ſlavery than that from which a fortuitous concurrence of events (as they conceived) have releaſed them.——Perhaps hiſtory furniſhes not a ſingle inſtance of a people, for any length of time, continuing to enjoy the bleſſings of freedom, under the adminiſtration of a government compoſed of but one branch. Experience has evinced, both in the old and new world, the benefits derived from a government compoſed of three branches, with proper checks upon each other.——In all governments, diſtinctions, in ſome degree, will exiſt, and the idea of PERFECT EQUALITY muſt, with every judicious and candid mind, be viewed as chimerical, except mankind revert back to a ſtate of nature. Merit claims a diſtinction; nor would any law, which the utmoſt ſtretch of human ingenuity could fabricate, prevent popular reſpect from being paid to characters whoſe talents and exertions had promoted in an eminent degree the public weal. It has been cuſtomary in deſpotick governments, however, frequently to eſtabliſh diſtinctions upon no other baſis than regal favour, and theſe have been very improperly made hereditary. This has been the caſe in France, the National Aſſembly of which are about to aboliſh ALL diſtinctions, orders, and privileges, at one ſtroke, (if credit may be given to late foreign intelligence.) This will be deemed by many rather too precipitate a ſtroke at this period of their affairs, and indeed, unwiſe at any period; for, as we have before hinted, diſtinctions MUST always exiſt in every government. Were the National Aſſembly of France to aboliſh ſuch diſtinctions among them as are hereditary, and by degrees go on to eradicate other evils engendered by deſpotiſm, the probability would be in favour of their eſtabliſhing a government calculated to ſupport and defend the juſt rights of human nature. But, as at this early ſtage of their progreſs, they have ſeized on the poſſeſſions and property of the clergy, (to the amount it is ſaid of 400 millions livres) who are a numerous and powerful body—as they have in fact taken all power from the King, and transferred it to a ſingle aſſembly—as they are about to aboliſh all orders, diſtinctions and privileges, it is very much to be doubted whether the ſunſhine of peace will long continue to illumine their hemiſphere, notwithſtanding European accounts mention that affairs at preſent wear a peaceable aſpect. The King, it is evident, makes a virtue of neceſſity, and his party is not inconſiderable, though doubtleſs they find it moſt wiſe at preſent apparently to concur in ſentiment with a majority of the National Aſſembly. When this Aſſembly ſhall riſe, we are of opinion a new ſcene will open to the view of the world, very different from that which the body of the French nation expect. It is ſincerely hoped, however, that this opinion is founded in error, and that a conſtitution of government will yet be formed to ſecure the freedom and happineſs of France.

NEW-YORK, *WEDNESDAY*, MAY 26.

By European accounts it appears that the courts of Spain and Portugal are exceedingly ſolicitous to prevent the contagion of the French influenza from ſpreading among their ſubjects. Their efforts will however prove in vain—they may as well try to exclude the light of the Sun. The rays of knowledge have pervaded the former of thoſe kingdoms. The arts and ſciences within a few years have been encouraged in Spain Several valuable publications in hiſtory, laws and philoſophy have appeared.—Knowledge unfetters the human mind—the ſweets of property are but half enjoyed, while in ſecure—theſe reflections are inſeparably connected with every encouragement that arts and manufactures receive. The Clergy of thoſe countries appear to be the *dernier reſort* of deſpotiſm, but the time is faſt approaching when the meridian ſplendor of truth & right reaſon ſhall diſſipate the dark miſts of error—when thoſe, long bound in the priſon houſe of blind bigotry, ſhall ſpring to "*light, liberty, and life.*"

Extract of a letter from Liverpool, to a Gentleman in Kingſton Jamaica.

"Mr. Wilberforce has muſtered all his forces for another attack on the trade; they are very ſanguine, and go again for a total abolition. The Preſbyterians are in commotion about the teſt act. The miniſter will have enough to do this ſeſſion. I have been told that if theſe two points are carried, an attempt will be made to equalize the Clergy, and to pluck them a little; nay, they even go ſo far as to ſay, there is a wiſh to annihilate the whole bench of Biſhops.

"I cannot ſay whether this be from a ſpirit of liberty or not, but there is ſome deep laid ſcheme amongſt the Preſbyterians, aſſiſted by their brethren of America, to diſtreſs this country, if poſſible, to the aggrandizement of their own."

The holy flame of liberty is kindling in Britain—it is laughable to hear britiſh letter writers charging Americans with fomenting diſtreſſes in their country—they have only to croſs the channel for the example which has affected their citizens.

On Saturday laſt happened a very melancholly accident in this city. A daughter of Captain Hamilton, in Crown Street, an amiable girl of near ſixteen years of age, went with her brother in her arms (an infant of two years old) into the ſteeple of the New Dutch Church, within a ſmall diſtance of her father's dwelling houſe. Unfortunately, when ſhe had aſcended as high as the fourth ſtory, and inadvertently treading upon ſome looſe boards, they gave way, and both came to the pavement ſhockingly bruiſed, and the girl with part of her ſcull beaten in. The latter died inſtantly, the infant ſurvived about three quarters of an hour.

We hear it was moved in the Senate of the United States on Monday laſt that when Congreſs adjourn, they adjourn to the City of Philadelphia.

The Preſident of the United States is ſo far recovered that he rode out in his carriage on Mondy laſt.

ARRIVALS SINCE OUR LAST.——NEW-YORK.

Brig Princeſs Ann, Richardſon, Leghorn, 77 days.
Schooner Three Siſters, Marſchalk, Curracoe 21 days.
——Royal Captain, Houſton Grenada, 22 days.
——Experiment, Goram Port au Prince, 17 days.
Sloop Ranger, Allin, St. Croix, 13 days.
——Polly, Dodds, Charleſton, 8 days.
——Dauphin, Mills, Bahama, 13 days.

DUBLIN, March 18.

YESTERDAY, his Excell. the Earl of Weſtmoreland, went in ſtate to the Houſe of Peers, and gave the Royal aſſent to the following bills, viz. The great money bill, the mutiny bill, the hawkers and pedlars bill, the coffee bill, the bill for the advancement of trade, the malt bill, the ſugar bill, the linen-trade bill, the French treaty bill, the ſtamp duty-bill, the tobacco-trade bill, the bill to amend the law relative to regiſtering freeholders, and the bill relative to the guardianſhip of Roman Catholic children. His Excellency was accompanied in the ſtate carriage by the Marquis of Waterford, and the Earl of Drogheda.

The Right Hon. the Speaker of the Houſe of Commons made the following excellent ſpeech yeſterday at the bar of the Houſe of Peers, on preſenting the bills above mentioned.

"May it pleaſe your Excellency,

"Every year's experience ſince 1785 has ſhewn the wiſdom of the principle which the Commons then eſtabliſhed, of preventing the accumulation of the national debt. Under the influence of that principle, public credit has riſen ſo high as to admit of an increaſe to the ſinking fund by a conſiderable diminution in the intereſt of the public debt. Private credit too has felt its ſalutary effects, and the advanced ſtate of both has given vigour to induſtry, and a ſteady aid to mercantile exertions.

"We now ſee our commerce extended to a degree unknown in any former time; our agriculture encreaſed even beyond the moſt ſanguine expectation, and our linen manufacture riſen largely in its value. Such is the preſent proſperous ſituation of this country; and we behold it with more ſatisfaction, becauſe it has not ariſen from temporary or accidental circumſtances, but has proceeded in a ſteady and regular courſe, from a wiſe ſyſtem uniformly adhered to, from a confidence of the nation in a continuance of that ſyſtem, from the ſecurity given to private property againſt the violence of outrage, and above all, from that content and peaceable ſubmiſſion to the laws without which no kingdom, however bleſſed in conſtitution, climate, ſoil, or ſituation, can be rich, powerful, or happy."

LONDON, March 28.

FRENCH COMMERCE.

The Committee of Agriculture and commerce in France have propoſed to the National Aſſembly the following Decree relative to the privileges of the Eaſt India Company, which was ordered to be printed.

The National Aſſembly, conſidering that the liberty of the ſea is the univerſal tie of nations; that ſhackles on commerce tend to check genius, and throw a damp upon induſtry; that the ſyſtem of monopoly, while it gives ſtrength to a ſmall part of the body politic, leaves the greateſt part torpid and inert; decree as follows;

I. The excluſive privileges of commerce to India and china, granted to a company by the Arrets of Council of the 14th of April 1785, and the 27th of September 1786, are hereby revoked.

II. From henceforth every Citizen of France ſhall have free liberty to trade to India, China, and all other places, contained in the excluſive privileges of the company, without the neceſſity of any paſſport or permiſſion, provided always the Ordinances and Edicts of the Admiralty be attended to.

III. All veſſels employed in trading to India, China, and other countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope, ſhall, by a paſs, certify their return at Port L'Orient.

IV. All commodities of the growth of India and China ſhall be liable to a tax of five per cent. *ad valorem*; and thoſe of the growth of the Iſles of France and Bourbon, to a tax of four per cent.

V. The India Company ſhall be exempted from ſuch tax on all commodities and merchandize lying in the Company's warehouſe at L'Orient; and alſo on thoſe merchandizes imported from India on the account of the Company.

PROTECTION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN.

Extract of a letter from Madrid, March 3.

"The King our Sovereign, after having in vain remonſtrated with the French Councils without ſucceſs, has made a reſolution to take upon himſelf the preſerving the free and independent navigation of the Mediterranean ſeas for the year 1790 at leaſt, and has for this purpoſe ordered, beſides the ſhips from Malaga and Barcelona, four men of war to be equipt immediatly at Carthagena, which is to compoſe a third detached ſquadron of obſervation, for protecting the ſea coaſt, traders, &c. The deranged ſtate of the French government has a wonderful effect in the cabinet of this country."

ANECDOTE.

In inſtructing the Dauphin to read, the declaration of the rights of man has lately been employed. A few days ago the King aſked him, whether he recollected any thing he had gone over? "Yes, (ſaid he,) father, I underſtand, by what I have read, that men are equal, and that every Frenchman is a man as well as *myſelf*." This is very true, ſaid the King.—"Then (replied the Dauphin,) how is it that I hear the contrary aſſerted by ſuch and ſuch people," naming ſeveral of the dignified clergy, dukes, counts, &c. "I pri'thee, father, order that in future they may be taught to read in the declaration of the rights of man."

HALIFAX, April 22.

Yeſterday the Houſe of Aſſembly met according to their adjournment. His Majeſty's Council ſent down the appropriation bill with ſundry amendments. The Houſe conceiving they had no right to amend a money bill, threw it under the table, and proceeded to form a new bill, with ſundry alterations—which being alſo ſent up for the concurrence of the Council, was ſoon ſent down with amendments. The Houſe then choſe a committee to confer with a committee of the Council on the ſubject, from which conference it appeared that the Council were determined to abide by their amendments of the bill; and the Houſe appearing equally determined to abide by their bill without any alteration—the bill; was again ſent up to the Council for their concurrence. After ſome time had elapſed, his excellency the Lieutenant Governor came to the Council Chamber, and ſent a meſſage to the Houſe requiring their attendance. The Houſe accordingly attended, and the ſpeaker read and preſented to his excellency the 7th articles of impeachment againſt the Juſtices of his Majeſty's Supreme Court, which the Houſe had framed out of 10 of the articles of charge that were originally brought before them.

His Excellency then gave his aſſent to all the bills which had been agreed to by both Houſes, except the bill for limiting the duration of the aſſembly to 7 years. The reaſon aſſigned by his Excellency for refuſing his aſſent to the latter bill was its being contrary to his inſtructions. After which his Excellency was pleaſed to prorogue the general Aſſembly to the 15th of July next—Previous to the Houſe being called up to the Council chamber they had made choice of Iſaac Wilkins & Eliſha Lawrence Eſq's, to go to England, and alſo prepared inſtructions for them.

Extract of a letter from Quebec, Feb. 1790.

"The poſts we conſider as the key to the fur trade---from which trade Great-Britain derives her principal revenue in this province, though it is not always equally productive.---This object is greatly coveted by the people of the States; but whenever it ſhall fall into their hands, they will be very much diſappointed---for a ſpirit of rivalſhip will lead adventurers into ſuch ſchemes if competition, and out bidding of each other, as will eventually ruin the trade---and as to any advantage it would be to their government, I can conceive of none.---Our merchants under the ſtricteſt regulations that our government can impoſe, are often ſufferers by their ſpeculations in this buſineſs. With reſpect to relinquiſhing the poſts I ſee no ſymtom of it."

PRICE CURRENT.——NEW-YORK.

MAY 26.—— DOLLARS at 8s.

JAMAICA Spirits,	5/3. 5/.	Do. 22 inch do.	1l. 6/.
Antigua Rum,	4/9. a 5/.	Do. 18. inch do.	18/
St. Croix, do.	4/4.	Butt white oak ſtaves,	35/.
Country, do.	3/.	Pipe do. do.	9l.
Molaſſes,	2/2.	Hogſhead do. do.	6l. 10/.
Brandy,	7/.	Do. do. heading,	8l.
Geneva,	5/.	Iriſh barrel do. ſtaves,	3l. 5/.
Do. in caſes,	28/.	Hogſhead red oak do.	5l. 5/.
Muſcovado Sugar,	80/. a 72/.	Do. French do.	5l.
Loaf, do.	1/3.	Hogſhead hoops,	4l.
Lump, do.	1/1½.	Whiteoak ſquare timber per ſquare foot,	10d.
Pepper,	2/7 2/9.	Red wood, per ton,	20l.
Pimento,	1/. a 1/4.	Fuſtick,	10l.
Coffee,	1/3. 1/4.	Beaver, per lb.	12/. a 16/.
Indigo, (Carolina)	3/. a 6/.	Otter per ſkin,	9/. 32/.
Do. French,	18/. 10/.	Grey fox,	4/7.
Rice,	23/. 24/.	Martin,	4/10.
Superfine Flour,	64/.	Racoon,	3/6 a 7/6.
Common do.	58/.	Muſkrat,	10d. a 14d.
Rye do.	26/. a 28/.	Beaver hats,	64/.
Indian Meal,	18/. 20/.	Caſtor do.	48/.
Rye,	5/. pr. buſh.	Chocolate,	14d.
Wheat,	11/. a 12/.	Cocoa,	70/. a 80/.
Corn, (Southern)	4/.	Cotton,	1/9.
Do. (Northern,)	5/. a 4/9.	Tar, pr. bar.	12/.
Beef, firſt quality,	48/. 50/.	Pitch,	14/.
Pork, firſt quality,	80/.	Turpentine,	18/. a 20/.
Oats,	2/2.	Tobacco, James River,	4d. a 3½d.
Flax-ſeed,	5/.	Do. York,	4d. a 3½d.
Ship bread per cwt.	21/. 24/.	Do. Rappahanock,	2d a 3½d.
Country refined bar-iron,	28l. a 30l.	Do. Maryland, coloured,	5½d.
Do. bloomery,	25l. a 26l.	Do. Weſtern-ſhore,	2d a 3½d.
Swedes do.	45l.	Lead in pigs, pr cwt.	60/.
Ruſſia do.	30l.	Do. bars,	68/.
Pig-iron,	8l 10/. a 9l.	Do. Shot,	68/.
German ſteel,	9d. per lb.	Red lead,	68/.
Nails American, by caſk, per lb. 4d.	14d	White do. dry,	95/.
Do. do. do.	6d. 12d.	White do. in oil,	5l. 12/.
Do. do. do.	8d. 9½d.	Salt-petre hams,	7½d.
Do. do. do.	10d.	Spermaceti candles,	3/.
Do. do. do.	12d.	Mould do.	11d. a 1/.
Do. do. do.	20d.	Tallow dipt,	9½d.
Do. do. do.	24d. 7½d a 8½d.	Soap,	5d. a 8d.
Pot aſh, per ton,	39l. a 40l.	Caſtile ſoap,	9d. a 10d.
Pearl aſh,	48l a 50l.	Engliſh cheeſe, pr. lb.	15d.
Bees-wax per lb.	2/.	Country do.	5d. 6d.
Mackarel per barr.	26/. a 30/.	Butter,	10d.
Herrings,	18/. 16/.	Hyſon tea,	9/6. a 10/.
Mahogany, Jamaica, per foot,	10d.	Sequin do.	6/6.
Dominico, do.	9d.	Bohea do.	2/6.
Honduras, do.	7d.	Ginſeng,	2/. a 2/6.
Logwood unchipped, pr. ton.	8l.	Starch Poland,	7d.
Do. chipped.	14l.	Snuff,	2/3.
2 inch white oak plank, per m.	10l. 10/.	Allum ſalt, water meaſure, pr. buſh.	36/.
1 inch do.	5l.	Liverpool do.	2/.
2 inch white pine plank,	8l.	Madeira wine, pr. pipe,	60l. a 90l.
1½ inch do.	6l. 10/.	Port,	46l.
1 inch do.	3l. 10/.	Liſbon, pr. gal.	4/
2 inch pitch pine do.	10l.	Teneriff,	4/.
		Fyall,	3/3.

EDUCATION.

THE remote ſituation of Clinton Academy has prevented the merits of its inſtitution from being uſhered into public view, while other Seminaries, not more productive, have received the well deſerved approbation of the public, from the juſt applauſes of the literati, who have condeſcended to examine them. It cannot therefore, be amiſs to acquaint the uninformed that—the building for this Academy was erected in 1784, by a number of private gentlemen in Eaſt Hampton, on Long-Iſland.

That it was done for the purpoſe of promoting good learning in the neighbourhood—and of extending the bleſſings of education, ſo far as application for them ſhould be made. In the year 1787, this Academy received a charter of incorporation, and in January 1788, it was placed on the honorable eſtabliſhment of a branch of the univerſity. A conſiderable number of young gentlemen have begun their claſſical ſtudies here, and already completed them, in different colleges; a conſiderable number are now in college, and many more have finiſhed a valuable education at this ſeminary. The departments for miſcellaneous education have been more generally improved. In theſe, great numbers have received ſome benefit, and more than a few have advanced to brilliant acquirements.

Theſe departments being, for the preſent, committed to the management of the Subſcriber, he is determined to recommend them to the Public by that good order and proficiency of the Scholars, which undeniably declare the merits of the Inſtitution. He conſiders Tuition as an eſſential part of his employment; but, to gain the voluntary attention of his Pupils he deems ſtill more important.

He will *teach* thoſe who come only to be *taught*, and, he will avail himſelf of every poſſible advantage to *form the minds* of thoſe who are ſent to be made *Men*, as well as Scholars. He is particularly ſenſible of the neceſſity of good diſcipline, and is determined, at all events, to eſtabliſh and ſupport it; but, is equally determined to renounce corporal puniſhments, as an expedient for this purpoſe, being fully convinced that the ingenuous mind is beſt influenced by perſuaſive motives; and that the moſt refractory has ſome latent ſenſe of honor and propriety, which being called forth and properly directed, will better regulate the conduct than any corporal puniſhment which a Governor can inflict.

Every branch of common education will be taught in theſe departments, with the addition of the French language; and the Pupils will be carried to ſuch degrees of perfection, in what they are required to learn, as their time and genius will admit.

Particular attention is given to the religious improvement of the Scholars, by the Principal, the Rev. Mr. BURTT, who daily performs public prayers in the Academy, and gives every Saturday, a lecture in Theology.

The claſſical department, though lately vacated, by the removal of an eminent Inſtructor, will be ſeaſonably ſupplied by a gentleman ſuitably qualified for the place; and thoſe who apply for claſſical inſtruction, will be regularly attended to, at the uſual rate of thirty-two ſhillings per quarter.

The price for full tuition, at public and private hours, in the Engliſh Academical department, is twenty-ſix ſhillings per quarter, excluſive of vacations. There are appointed two vacations in a year—each, three weeks, and they are to commence the firſt week in April, and the firſt week in September. For the common School, viz. ſix hours in a day,—only fourteen ſhillings. Each ſcholar who writes, pays threepence per quarter for his ink, and one ſhilling per quarter for the uſe of books with which the miſcellaneous departments are completely furniſhed.

Good boarding, incluſive of waſhing, &c. may be had from eight to ten ſhillings per week; ſo that a ſcholar being properly clothed, and furniſhed with ſuitable utenſils for his buſineſs; his whole expences for a year, provided he is abſent during the vacations, may be defrayed with twenty-two pounds; or from that to twenty-eight, accordingly as it is choſen that he ſhould be taught or accommodated.

Eaſt Hampton, is well known to be a pleaſant part of the Iſland, and remarkably healthy. The conveyances by water to and from New-York are regular and frequent, a conſtant intercourſe is preſerved with various parts of the continent, and the remoteneſs of its ſituation is more than counterbalanced by the tranquility of the place, and its conveniences for ſtudy. The late generous notice of the legiſlature of the ſtate, in their valuable donation to the ſeminaries of learning, will undoubtedly add much to the uſefulneſs of this Academy.

The Subſcriber will devote his time, and utmoſt attention to the buſineſs of Education here, during the preſent ſeaſon, being

With great reſpect,
To the Promoters of Education,
Their moſt obedient,
And moſt humble Servant,
WILLIAM PAYNE.

By Permiſſion of the Principal.

Eaſt Hampton, May 5, 1790.

CONTINENTAL AND STATE SECURITIES,
BOUGHT AND SOLD,
AT NO. 196. WATER-STREET.

☞ *A generous price will be given for Military Rights of Land and Jerſey Paper Money.* May 4.

William Taylor,

Has for Sale, at his EAST-INDIA GOODS STORE, No. 3, QUEEN-STREET,

A General Aſſortment of EAST-INDIA GOODS.

Among which are the following Articles:

BOOK Muſlins 8-4 6-4 5-4		HUMHUMS,	
Jackonet do.		Long Cloths,	
Hankerchiefs, of various kinds,		Caſſas,	
Chintzes,		Seerſuckers,	
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A Variety of handſome painted MUSLINS.

With many other Articles, which will be ſold by the Piece or Package, low for caſh.

CASH, and a generous price given for Continental, New-Hampſhire, Maſſachuſetts, and Rhode-Iſland ſecurities, of every denomination, by

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New-York, April 17, 1790.

James F. Sebor, and Co.

Have removed from No. 59, to No. 187, Water-Street, near the Fly-Market,

WHERE they negociate all kinds of PUBLICK SECURITIES—BILLS OF EXCHANGE. &c. as uſual.

New-York, April 8, 1790. tf.

☞ *A large impreſſion of this paper having been ſtruck off from the commencement of the ſecond vol. April 14.—Thoſe who incline to become ſubſcribers from that period, may be furniſhed with the numbers compleat.*